

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's final Office Action of August 16, 2007 in the present RCE application, the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying Request for Continued Examination and Amendment of the claims, and the below Remarks.

Regarding Amendment

In the Amendment:

independent claim 1 is amended to specify that the verification circuit is part of a processor of the cradle which is configured to determine the printing performance of the printhead and to authenticate the cartridge from printing performance and authentication information stored in the authentication device of the cartridge. Support for this amendment can be found at page 7, lines 20-25 and page 17, line 21-page 18, line 15 of the present specification; and

dependent claims 2-5 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the Amendment does not add any new matter to the present application.

Regarding 35 USC 103(a) Rejections

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended independent claim 1, and claims 2-5 dependent therefrom, is not taught or suggested by any one or more of previously cited Bolash, Silverbrook '952 and Silverbrook '513 in view of newly cited Silverbrook (US 6,238,043), for at least the following reasons.

As discussed above, independent claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the processor and verification circuit of the cradle are configured to determine the printing performance from printing performance information stored in the authentication device of the cartridge and to also authenticate the cartridge from authentication information stored in the authentication device. In this way, the cradle is adaptable to receive cartridges of different or upgradeable printing performance (see page 7, lines 20-25 and page 17, line 21-page 18, line 15 of the present specification).

On the other hand, Silverbrook '043 merely discloses a QA chip as an authentication mechanism (see col. 8, lines 23-27), and does not teach or suggest storing printing performance information in the QA chip, and therefore does not teach or suggest configuring a processor of a cradle to determine printing performance from this stored information.

Thus, in any combination of Bolash, Silverbrook '952 and Silverbrook '513, one of ordinary skill in the art would not be motivated to store both printing performance and authentication information in an authentication device of the cartridge, nor to configure a processor of the cradle to use this information, as recited in amended independent claim 1, and claims 2-5 dependent therefrom.

It is respectfully submitted that the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

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